



# The DIXIE

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE DIXIE (31st) DIVISION



VOLUME 1

ALONG THE THIRD ARMY FRONT, SOMEWHERE IN LOUISIANA, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1941

NUMBER 36

## TROOPS TO BIVOUAC IN CITIES NEAR HOMES

### LAST PROBLEM LIKE REAL WAR, SAYS GENERAL

Officers and Men Commanded By Dixie Commander At Critique

By CORP. E. M. MEADOWS  
Major General John C. Persons, Dixie Division commander, praised officers and men for the way they completed their military assignments and aggressiveness during the War Games last week at a critique held at the forward command post last week.

The text of his speech echoed the statement the general made two months ago before the 120 mile Ocala march when he said that the "only way to get men in condition was the hard way."

"This last engagement was the nearest approach to actual warfare of any I have ever seen," said the General. "I remember when in France, fighting with the infantry as a junior officer, many times, in fact, most of the time, just such conditions as we had on this problem were prevalent. Not many men knew where they were going, or why or when. It was impossible for the high commanders to keep directly in touch with each unit down to the bottom. Often while advancing, my outfit would meet broken units who were completely lost. This division deserves commendation for the unity throughout the problem."

General Persons stated that the artillery regiments carried out their functions very efficiently at all times. Anywhere artillery fire was needed and ordered, it was directed there without the slightest delay, he said, and due to this fact, lines were held against great odds.

In one instance where enemy troops were crossing a bridge into a deep swamp, impassable even for foot troops except on the paved road, special attention was called to the tactics of the newly formed Reconnaissance unit of the division. A handful of men was left concealed at a bridge near the entrance of the marsh while others were sent on ahead deep into the swamp to blow a bridge. A large convoy of enemy trucks was then allowed to pass over the first bridge, after which it too was "destroyed," cutting off every exit for the troops. Again the reconnaissance unit was given the

### Co. A. Medicos Enjoy Dance Arranged By Tullos USO

Through the efforts of the United Service Organization, members of Company A of the 106th Medical Regiment were entertained at a dance at Tullos, La., Tuesday night. Over 100 girls from surrounding cities and towns acted as escorts for the New Orleans, La., soldiers, who were given liberty until midnight.

Members of Captain Zachary Romeo's company traveled from their bivouac area to Tullos by a truck convoy in charge of First Lieutenant James McCabe. Arrangements for the dance were initiated by Pvt. Woodward, who lives in the vicinity of Tullos; the orchestra was made available through company funds.

Features of the affair were novelty dances by Corp. Roland Lescola and Private B. X. "Pep-per" Martin of Company A.

### DOUBLE-DECK HAMMOCKS

Battery B of the 116th Field Artillery, from Tampa, has developed into a hammock city. In the one area alone there are five hammocks in a row. Where trees are scarce, double-decking is used.

### End of War Spoils Colonel's Strategy To Gain Enemy News

First Lt. Ralph E. Means, Battery C, 114th Field Artillery, forward observer for his regiment during the last problem, carried his observance a bit too far and was espied by two enemy officers, also from the field artillery, who promptly gave chase. With the enemy on his heels the Lieutenant followed a trail that led beyond Blue outposts and into his own lines. There the officers were captured.

Next they were taken to the 115th Command Post. Colonel A. G. Paxton, regimental commander, offered breakfast, solace, and later, he promised, a shower. The courtesies were extended, largely, in the hope that information might be obtained later. But the incident ended with both sides having fairly even scores. Right after the free meal the war was declared at end.

### 'C' RATIONS MAY BE SERVED MEN DURING GAMES

By PVT. M. C. TACKLEY  
When and if the great Louisiana "War" holds up the 31st (Dixie) Division's supply train of food, Capt. Julian F. Pfaff, supply officer for the 31st, will issue to Dixie units the new type of "C" rations, known generally as emergency rations. Whether the supply train's hold-up is mythical or actual will be determined by Third Army headquarters. Orders to issue them will be sent out by the Army command.

At that time men of the Division will no longer have to stand in line for their kitchen prepared meals. They will be issued the entire day's supply in the morning and it will consist of six small cans of concentrated food. There will be enough food and nutrition for a whole day, whether the man be large or small, and if the soldier chooses to consume it all at one meal hour, it will be his misfortune as the ration issue will be carefully counted and checked.

Here is what the soldier can expect to eat under the "C" ration plan: 1 can of meat and beans; 1 can of meat and vegetable hash; 1 can of meat and vegetable stew. The other three cans of food contain biscuits, concentrated chocolate, sugar, and powdered coffee. What is eaten at the various meals depends entirely upon the taste and choice of the individual. There is no separate breakfast type of food and that meal is treated in much the same way as the other two.

The food is so prepared before canning that it is highly concentrated and can be eaten hot or cold. It is anticipated that companies and batteries will prepare large cans of hot water into which the cans can be dropped for heating before the food is consumed.

### Same Jobs, Rank Age But Different Names

With the same birthday, rank, number of years of service, tent and company, the only difference between Master Sergeants Luther Fanning and Ernest Collins of Montgomery and Gadsden, respectively, is their names.

Both men of Service Company, 167th Infantry are married, have successive army serial numbers, were born on Aug. 18, 1904 and joined the National Guard 18 years ago.

One other comrades called attention to the fact that they even use the same "cuss" words.

### Canteens Refresh Soldiers at Front



The outstanding offensive and defensive military achievements of the South's own division, the 31st (Dixie) Division, in the maneuvers of the IV Army Corps and the Third Army, concluded this week, has been attributed to many causes, and one of those overlooked has been the rolling canteen system. The latter has followed the boys from Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi and Florida wherever they have been in the field, and refreshments and cigarettes at the right moments have done much to bolster the spirits of the fighting lads from Dixie.

### DARING 124TH PRIVATES TAKE GENERAL'S CAR

By PVT. GEORGE H. SIEGEL

Two privates in the army only since March are the toast of their comrades in Company D, 124th Infantry, and the rest of the division as a result of their daring in the Third Army maneuver. The soldiers, William A. Stephens and Hollis Inman, inducted from Miami, converted their own capture into a brilliant escape, purchased a staff car and returned with valuable enemy plans and maps which made the defense of the 31st a standstill of the Reds versus Blues conflict.

General John C. Persons himself sent the car, chauffeur and maps and plans to the embarrassed general of the 37th Division whose car had been captured, with a note in which he apologized for the inconvenience caused by the theft and thanked the enemy leader for the use of the helpful materials.

Stephens and Inman, engaged in a reconnaissance behind the enemy lines, were returning to their unit when captured. They stayed on the alert, however, and

### Major Jiggetts Returns to Duty

Major Lewis M. Jiggetts, Jackson, Miss., returned as regimental executive of the 155th Infantry this week after completing a three-month Staff Officer's course at the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia. Major Roger Atkins served as executive officer in his absence.

### Florida Boy Writes Jingle

Two weeks ago THE DIXIE asked soldiers to complete the verse to "Goodbye, Lou I'll be back when they're through." So far an answer has come in and that from 14-year-old Don Cole of 67 Almeria street, St. Augustine, Fla. Here is Don's rhyme. See if you can write one for next week's publication.

"Goodbye, Lou, I'll be back when they're through,  
Cause Uncle Sam needs me and you.  
I serve my country the best I know how,  
You buy your Bonds and Stamps right now,  
So goodbye, Lou, I'll be back anew,  
'Cause the Draft Bill went through."

### Simulated Injury For 124th Chaplain

Major John T. Jenner, chaplain of the 124th Infantry is still being kidded by his colleagues for the "broken knee cap" he received during war games last week.

Major Jenner was standing on a bridge which was the objective of artillery fire. According to umpire rules and in actual warfare the regiment's spiritual leader would have been killed.

Unwilling to be taken out of action, Major Jenner asked the umpire to give him a "minor injury." The umpire obliged by tagging the officer with a "broken knee cap."

### Four Dixie Men Sent to West Point Prep School

The Dixie Division had four men qualify for the West Point Preparatory School which began September 3rd at Ft. McPherson, Georgia. The students have been placed on detached service and traveled to Ft. McPherson at their own expense, reporting to the school's Commandant September 2nd. The men, selected by examination, are Sgt. Thomas J. Moore, Co. A, 167th Infantry; Sgt. Vergil S. Adkins, Jr., Band, 114th Field Artillery; Sgt. Archie R. Patterson, Jr., Service Company, 106th Quartermaster Regiment; and Corporal John W. Davis, Co. K, 124th Infantry.

### FIVE THOUSAND MEN CONVOYED DURING "WAR"

Here is a problem in arithmetic which was solved by Major Mark W. Lance, motor officer of the Dixie Division during a recent War Game. The officer had to move 5000 troops in 43 trucks in a very short period of time.

The battle situation called for help at the front. The 156th Infantry Regiment was held in reserve. Word was received that it was needed at the front. As fast as men could be piled into the vehicles they were rushed to the forward line. Back and forth the trucks thundered over the dusty roads with their cargo of fighting men. Tired drivers, wheeled the heavy machines. There was a monotonous job despite the fact that they were in plain view of planes that might attack at any moment.

Gradually the line of soldiers who kept walking toward their objective thinned out, as the trucks picked up the men and carried them forward. At last the mission was completed. The much needed regiment was in a fighting position ready to do its part in the fray.

Major Lance was aided by Captain Beauford Pittman of 106th Q. M. Regiment and Tech. Sgt. Reier arranged and directed the shuttle of troops.

Capt. Charles Sellers, commander of Company D, 106th Q. M. Regiment, worked with the Major in this phase of the Dixie's problems of battle and when the battalion transportation officer of the 156th Infantry was captured by the enemy, he assumed this position. Pvt. Raymond Constantino, of Alexandria, La., was also of assistance to the officers.

During the problem the Dixie Division was a part of the Red Army and under Lance's direction the vehicles were sent out in all directions loaded with re-enforcements. At all times Major Lance was carrying out orders brought to him by messengers.

### Selectees Win Colors for Unit

Although Company C is the "baby" outfit of the 106th Medical Regiment, its soldiers under Captain F. Ramsey, First Lieutenant Dougherty and First Sergeant Vernon Loisel, have piled up impressive records in many branches of the service. These men from Laurel, Miss., and New Orleans, La., were recently awarded colors for making the best training records during the eight weeks of basic military tactics for all selectees. Staff Sergeant Arnold and Corporal Tillery of this same company were sent to Fort Sam Houston, Tex., for advanced training in medical and surgical nursing.

### PROMOTED

Sergeant John Castler of Battery B, 114th F. A., was recently promoted to second lieutenant.

### SENT TO COOK'S SCHOOL

Pfc. Glen A. McDonald, cook of Battery B, 114th F. A., left this week to attend mess sergeant's school at Camp Blanding.

### ARRANGE ECHELONS SO STOPS ARE MADE IN HOME STATES

#### IT SHALL BE DONE

With the opening of the big Third Army vs. Second Army battle today, the Dixie Division was assigned a highly important mission. This assignment resulted from the Dixie troops' performance during preliminary phases of the Louisiana maneuvers, and the 31st's mission in this battle will be the "final test" of the Southern unit's fighting spirit and ability.

"No matter how tough the assignment — IT SHALL BE DONE" was the order of the day as Major General John C. Persons, Dixie Division commander, directed activities from his command car along the front line.

### STEAK SUPPER SERVED MIAMI UNIT AFTER WAR

Company A, 124th Infantry Regiment, tired and dusty after almost a week's strenuous activity, received compensation for their hardships in the form of a steak dinner served with all the trimmings last Thursday night.

Men ate their fill with the Regimental Band providing "dinner music." Pvt. Bob Moore of Miami played the popular "Sugar Blues" and several of the latest melodies. Night club singer Pvt. Max Kreis, rendered several songs.

The menu consisted of a pound T bone steak, creamed potatoes, gravy, green peas, waldorf salad, ice tea, and ice cream and cake.

These Company A officers spoke to men briefly on the fine work they did during the problem: 1st Lt. Walter Smith, Lt. Joseph Spence, Lt. Roger Maloof, 2nd Lt. Louis Hammer and 1st Lt. Terry Patterson. Commanding officer Captain John G. McFarlan was unable to be present at the affair because of illness.

### USE COLONEL'S CAR TO OBTAIN NEWS OF BLUES

What would you do if you went to sleep in what you thought was your territory and woke up to find yourself behind the Blue enemy lines?

Many would do as nine of the twelve non-coms of Co. G, 156th Inf., did who found themselves in that situation last Monday morning. They surrendered.

Corp. Earl Sanders and Sgts. Thomas Porter and Warren Holbrook, escaped, captured an enemy Colonel's command car and its driver, and, after spending the entire day observing movements of the Blue troops, crossed into their own territory with valuable information.

The twelve had gone home on week-end passes and returned late Sunday night. While they were away, the company had changed its position. Unable to find their unit, they were forced to spend the night on the ground. The enemy had moved in during the night.

### Plans For Return Trek Are Announced By Division Heads

The Floridians are going to Blending earliest.

The Louisianians are leaving last.

The Alabamians will bivouac in Mobile.

The Mississippians will stop overnight in Gulfport.

That's the story of the Dixie Division's homeward trek to its training camp in Florida after completion of this week's big maneuver battle of the Third Army vs. the Second Army.

At the direction of Major General John C. Persons, commander, the Dixie Division G-4, Lt. Col. George W. McRory has worked out a tentative Order of March which will enable troops of the 31st to "remain the longest time possible nearest their own homes."

First echelons, including Florida and Alabama troops will bivouac overnight at Mobile, Ala., on the journey to Camp Blanding via the Old Spanish Trail along the Gulf Coast, while later echelons, including Mississippi and Louisiana units, will bivouac at Gulfport, Miss.

Exception to the rule will be the artillery regiments, which will travel in the 6th Echelon with the 56th Field Artillery Brigade as a single unit.

An advance reconnaissance party is this week making a survey of the route, along Highway 190 to the Gulf Coast, on Highway 90, to Tallahassee, through Gainesville, Fla., and on to Lland. Members of the reconnaissance party are Capt. W. D. Smith, Jr., and Lt. J. T. Kizer, 106th Quartermaster Regiment, and Lt. Henry MacEaurt, 106th Engineers.

The tentative Order of March follows:

1st Echelon  
Hq & Hq Co IV Army Corps  
Hq & Hq Co 31st Inf Div.  
22 Car Co (Less 2, 3, 4 Plat.)  
106th Med Regt (Less Dets)  
31st Reconnaissance Det  
(Continued on Page 4)

### Civilians Prepare 124th Tasty Meals During Maneuvers

Many stories came out of the recent maneuvers about the hospitality of civilians living in the war zone. Soldiers of the 124th report how they were treated to tasty lunches by these generous folks.

Several members of Company G hold fond memories of the sweet milk, buttermilk, bread and jelly that Mrs. A. G. Hudson of Route 2 Alexandria, served to them while they were stationed near her plantation.

Another lady baked several pans of biscuits and gave them, with delicious home made preserves, to soldiers of the First Battalion.

When the kitchen truck failed to appear at supper time, a dozen or so men of Company E and Anti-Tank struck a bargain with a willing farmer for a meal of fried chicken, hot biscuits and coffee at 25 cents per man. These men claim that no chicken was ever fried better, no biscuits have been better baked.

### GOES TO SCHOOL

1st Battalion, 114th Field Artillery, lost its commanding officer temporarily this week when Lt. Col. James A. Lake left for Fort Sill to attend a three-month Advanced Officer's course. In his absence Major John D. Winter is acting commanding officer.

THE DIXIE

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DIXIE (31ST) DIVISION  
Camp Blanding, Florida

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THE DIXIE is published each week in the interest of the officers and men of the 31st Division with publication offices at Press Section, Division Headquarters, Phone, Apex "Press".

COMMON SENSE HELP

The American Public is definitely interested in helping the soldier. In each home, in every family, some tie binds them to our fate. Just watch the USO jars in buildings. Passers usually drop a donation, hoping that it will do some good in general. But usually the people away from army camps have little chance to get a personal touch into their efforts.

But something new has come up. The Good Neighbors Association has put forth a campaign to get at the core of a definite problem. They are not spending their time worrying about the aesthetic ideas of the boys but are meeting the question in a hard boiled and realistic way.

They are sending stickers to motorists, accompanied by a card explaining that the emblem, a large V, is the sign that the driver is a member of the "defense" victory ride club. Stations are being established in all major cities where rides will be arranged. Cars carrying the symbols, are pledged to give soldiers a lift. When you see a driver pass, giving the V sign with his fingers, it means that he is absolutely unable to pick you up. This campaign should help the situation about transportation a bit....bus fares knock a hole in a thirty dollar pay check.

PLAN TO HAVE ENEMY TAKE HIM HOME FAILS—ENDS IN STOCKADE

Take a convoy of "prisoners," a group of "enemy" M. P.'s who don't know Louisiana very well, and a homesick "Cajun" soldier who does and mix with a number of badly marked country roads. The result, according to Pvt. Laurie Hebert, of Co. G, 156th Inf., will almost be a way to do something that's practically impossible—get home in the middle of a maneuver.

Captured early in last week's problem and identified as the only Louisiana soldier in the entire group of Red "prisoners," Pvt. Hebert was the logical choice when confused Blue M. P.'s began looking for someone to lead their prisoner convoy back to the base stockade near Lake Charles. The soldier quickly accepted the job and climbed into the cab of the front truck.

When the convoy drew near a large town after several hours of twisting through backwoods roads, the M. P.'s became suspicious. One of them was sent forward to question Hebert. "Say, do you know where in the devil we are?" he asked the soldier.

The Louisianian sighed wistfully. "Sure. We're only a few miles from my hometown. I didn't think you fellows would mind if we passed by there. My mother would sure like to see me again."

Hebert spent the rest of the journey to the stockade in the back of the truck.

Colonel Saves Men, By Quick Action

Lt. Col. Rowlett, of the 124th Infantry stood at the edge of the bridge. "Step lively, men," he urged the troops. "The artillery has our range and is going to blow it up."

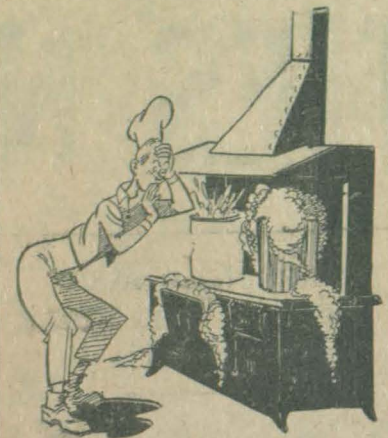
Blue troops were approaching and the situation was desperate. Just as the last man was crossing the bridge a soldier rushed up and ordered the Colonel to surrender. The man had no more than raised his gun when Col. Rowlett struck the weapon from the man's hand to the ground and snatched his own from the hoster.

He had saved himself and his troops by his quick thinking.

CRACKER BOY WRITES SARG OF HIS WOES AT BLANDING

Camp Blanding, Fla.

Dere Sarg: Things air SNAFU here, but we-all've bin gittin long fair to midling round hair. Mighty proud to hear thru the DIXIE that you-all air havin sich a nice time. Jist



lots of boys air eager to git out thair but can't caus of a 3rd Army Headquarters litter sayin no transportashun wuld be pade. By the by, Sargint, I wisht I had more educashun kause I didn't do so well et the Cook's and Baker's test you-all left me hair to take. Now, they's got me walkin gard, but I hain't complainin cause I no some of the boys wuld give five bucks offin their nixt month's pay to step into our latrine.

After you-all pulled out I think

all the flies in camp were attached to the Provisional Guard for rations only; and the kows actually started grazin in the streets, not to mention the friendliness of the hogs which wake us up a kickin round in the morning.

We's had some intertainmt. course not as much as you'ns had, but sixty gals came out fer a dance Friday, and the Grand Old Opry stars give a sho tother nite. Chaplin Newman, recently assigned from Ft Meade, hez bin conducting services in the Service Club on Sunday morn. I often wondrous whair that name Service Club com frum. Oh, yes, the record playin contraptshion et the club wint cafloce but one of the sojer hosts called the Machine Records Unit to come fix hit. Hit still ain't workin jist rite.

"All we do is sign the Payroll" is quite a popular song round hair. Everyday is pay day, fer some. Incidentally church attendance fell off after pay day. That's a shame.

This gass certue hes brough a new interest on life; almost ez much ez this 18 months extension program I heard they wuz thinking bout passin. Our mess sargint come in tother nite picked to a tee. Hoping you're as well.

Sincerely yurs,  
CRACKER BOY

IF FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED TRY AGAIN IS SERGEANT'S MOTTO

Monroe is less than 100 miles from the Louisiana maneuver area but his home there might just as well be on the opposite side of the world for Staff Sgt. Billy Chappell, of the 156th Infantry Band.

Ever since the band left Camp Blanding, Fla., Sgt. Chappell had been trying to get home. But something always prevented it. First he was detached to do week-end duty, then the regiment was out on a problem. The third week-end he was on duty again.

Finally, last week, he got his chance. Nothing stood in the way. Obtaining a week-end pass, Sgt. Chappell phoned to a friend in Monroe to come and get him.

Arriving in the town late that night, Chappell got out of the car two blocks from his home and started walking. He had made only a few steps when another car drew up. "Didn't you know soldiers aren't allowed on the streets after 10 o'clock?" a voice asked him. "Climb in." It was the Military Police.

Hours later, after much argument, Sgt. Chappell was turned loose—just in time to catch the last bus back to maneuver area so that he could be in before his pass was up!

Sergeant Wins Prize for Writing Battalion Song

Within the next few weeks Company A soldiers of the 156th Infantry Regiment, will be both heard and seen marching along to a stirring song written by Sgt. Royce Hatchett in collaboration with the regiment band.

Sgt. Royce won \$10 for his musical endeavors. Three entered the battalion song writing contest which was sponsored by Lt. Col. Jasper K. Wright commander of the unit.

A picked chorus of twenty voices from Company A sang the song in an impromptu woodland concert. The words of the Battalion Song follow:

"We're the soldiers of the First Battalion,

We're the loyal, courageous and the brave,

We will die, our colors flying

So proudly do they wave.

"True the road to glory is a hard one,

And the price for freedom isn't small,

But the soldiers of the First Battalion

Will go until they fall.

"As the boys in blue continue marching

Full of pride are hearts that beat as one

We will die to keep our colors flying

So proudly do they wave.

"True the road to glory is a hard one,

And the price for freedom isn't small,

But the soldiers of the First Battalion

Will go until they fall."

Tommy Gomez Points for Fight With Bud Scott

With a series of fights in view for the near future, Pvt. Tommy Gomez, popular Tampa, Fla., fighter in the 116th Field Artillery Medical Regiment, is training in earnest. According to Pvt. Peter Leto, Gomez' trainer, the fighter has his eye on a return bout with Bud Scott. Scott defeated Gomez July 14 at Benjamin Field on points.

In connection with a Gomez Scott return bout, it has been suggested that such a fight would be a fitting event to dedicate Tampa's new armory, Fort Homer W. Hesterly. Colonel Homer W. Hesterly, for whom the new armory was named, is commander of the 116th Field Artillery and one of Tampa's most ardent boxing fans.

CAPTIVE BALKS AT SWIM ACROSS THE RED RIVER

"The next time we capture an enemy officer, he'll swim or else!" avowed two Florida sergeants after losing a prisoner whom they had captured on the Rapides river.

When ordered to swim with his captors back to Dixie territory, the captured lieutenant pleaded the water was too cold and persuaded his captors to carry him over by way of a bridge, promising safe conduct through his own lines. But, when the sergeants tried to cross the bridge, a Red captain wouldn't allow them to take the prisoner across, despite terms of the agreement.

Their swimming ability and powers of endurance enabled these two non-coms of the 124th Infantry Regiment to distinguish themselves in the Battle of Rapides last week—and enabled this Florida outfit to hold off persistent attempts of Blue forces to make an invasion of Red territory by water.

All night long, Sgt. J. B. Moore and Sgt. Jack Metcalf, of Company B, swam back and forth in the nude across the ice-cold Rapides river, spotting enemy engineers' assault boats and reporting their positions to Lt. Col. Henry W. McMillan, commander of the 124th's First Battalion. The C. O., acting upon this information, placed fire against the boats and successfully forestalled the invasion attempts.

CONGRATULATIONS

Two can live as cheaply as one on army pay, so figure three members of Company E, 156th Infantry Regiment who were married last week-end. They are Pfc. John Arton, Pvt. John D. Collins, and Pfc. Garland Bourgeois, all residents of Jeanerette, La.

Communication Unit Fishes for Wire

Sgt. Reuben James of the signal unit, Hq. Btry. 1st Bn., 114th Field Artillery, has given his men new incentive for getting in the wire. "It's a lot like fishing," Sgt. James says and he should know. One day this week when the battery was given short notice to change positions, the wire detail began its cumbersome task with the non-com in the lead.

Grasping a wire and giving it the homeward tug, he noticed a slight resistance; but throwing his whole manly strength into the task, gradually it began to yield. Foot after foot came in, and the task seemed almost over, when suddenly through the trees the cause of the obstruction slipped reluctantly into view. "What do you want with my wire?" yelled an exasperated 117th linesman, faithfully holding on to what was rightfully his. "Well, I'll be darned," returned the Sgt. of the 114th, and the two fellows shook hands and called the struggle off. "Now let's see what I catch with this one," said Sgt. James, picking up another wire and starting all over again.

116th Medical Men Dig 20th Engineer From Gravel Pit

Pvt. H. B. Grantham of the 20th Engineers is thankful to three members of the 116th F. A. Med. Det., who dug him out of a sand pit after an avalanche completely covered him while he was working on a road detail near Boyce this week.

A group from the engineer company were loading gravel into trucks at the base of a pit when the top suddenly gave way completely inundating Grantham. Fortunately, Captain D. M. Bannen, Staff Sgt. Bennie Weintraub and Corp. Frank Roig came by the pit when the engineers were frantically digging their buddy out of the sand. They fell to and in a few minutes had the soldier out of the sand and were administering first aid. He was later removed to the 31st Division clearing station.

Good Trick To Remember

"Saved by the white flag" could be the title of a little adventure yarn authorized by Sergeant Roy Holley of the 106th Medical Regiment. Sergeant Holley, who is attached to the personnel officer's headquarters, was in Alexandria last Sunday night when war was resumed. He was captured by the Blues, who had taken over the town the night before. Some time during the night, a bright idea struck Holley. He remembered that his reconnaissance car had a mail bag and a white flag in it. He hoisted the white on his radiator cap, and with the mail sack in a conspicuous place, ran through the enemy lines. He arrived back at regimental headquarters early in the morning, none the worse for his experience.

Soldiers Seine Fish Supper

There are the anglers who fish for sport, and there is Battery C 114th Field Artillery which prefers the seine as they don't fish for sport. They like fish suppers.

Recently the enterprising members of that battery located a creek in the woods and proceeded to seine out their supper.

Enough fish for everybody in the battery to have "seconds" were caught. Don't ask them what kind of seine they used.

Colonel Checks Maneuver Profiteer

There is a group of men in the 124th Infantry who are grateful to Brigadier General Connelly of the 73rd Infantry Brigade, Camp Shelby, for putting a profiteer in his place.

This short-sighted storekeeper near Alexandria charged the soldiers fifteen cents for soft drinks, despite the thirty men's protests. The profiteering was reported to Gen. Connelly, who was in the neighborhood, and he sent in a private to verify the charge.

He then personally upbraided the merchant and had his establishment declared "Off Limits." The 124th men have sent a letter of thanks to General Connelly.

SGT. FINDS WAY TO FIND LOST BARRACKS BAG

The soldiers' "needle-in-the-hay-stack" problem is how to find a barracks bag in a tent filled with hundreds of them.

Sgt. Cleveland Weisgerber, of Baton Rouge's Co. A, 156th Inf., part of the Fighting Dixie Division was on the tail end of a dilemma one day last week. He had just received a package of clean clothes from home and wanted to put them away in his barracks bag—but there were more than 200 bags in the orderly tent.

Sgt. Weisgerber gazed around the tent in misery. Suddenly, however, his eyes came to rest on a stack of bundles in one corner. Here was the answer to the problem. Putting his whistle to his lips, the non-com blew a long blast.

When the company had formed, Weisgerber made his announcement: "Fellows, the laundry is here. If you don't want it to get dirty, you'd better get your barracks bags out of the orderly tent to put your clean stuff in."

A few minutes later, the non-com was able to walk in, pick up his barracks bag from where it lay on the floor, and put away his own clothes.

Sixth Cavalry Col. Commends Dixie Soldier

An unidentified soldier of the Dixie Reconnaissance unit was recently commended by Maj. Gen. John C. Persons for "playing the game."

During war games last month a 31st Division soldier helped a 6th Cavalry Liaison officer fix his motorcycle. Col. J. A. Considine, commanding officer of the horse troops wrote the following letter commending the Dixie soldier:

This morning, one of my officers operating as Liaison officer between the IV Army Corps Headquarters and the Sixth Cavalry Headquarters, was delayed enroute to this headquarters by a flat tire on his motorcycle side-car.

One of the soldiers of the 31st Division, riding in a Command Reconnaissance car, stopped and repaired the motorcycle, thereby assisting my Liaison Officer to continue on his mission.

I am sorry that my young officer did not get the name of this soldier so he might be named to you. I want you to know that the Sixth Cavalry appreciates the fine spirit of cooperation shown and hopes to be able to reciprocate should opportunity offer.

Sincerely yours,  
J. A. CONSIDINE,  
Col. 6th Cavalry  
Commanding.

Corporal Wins Crimson Tomato For Brave Deed

Corp. Richard L. Luce, plans and training clerk of the 116th Field Artillery, received the first "Crimson Tomato" of the Dixie Division this week.

During maneuvers Luce escaped capture and saved important regimental maps and papers. The event was recorded in the regimental weekly, The Bulletin Board, giving praise to the quick-thinking non-commissioned officer.

This commendation was the signal for Luce's companions to kid him about his deed, which was stated in the paper as the "former Crimson Tomato athlete who raided the enemy headquarters and escaped with important papers and maps." His friends thought his action deserved more than praise so they presented him with a sales tax token on a red and blue ribbon officially designated as the Crimson Tomato.

LADY REPORTER

The only feminine "war correspondent" to visit the Third Army maneuvers spent a day along the Dixie Division battle front last week, taking notes for a series of newspapers and magazine articles. She was Miss Bette Barber, staff writer for the Jackson (Miss.) Daily News.



The suggestion has been made that the Dixie conform to true Southern standards and adapt its style to fit a paper designed to serve men of the Deep South. First, we all will just have to assume that we all are aristocrats. But since army regulations have the quaint idea that every one can't be kunnels, some of us will just have to stay Privates—but proud souls.

Latest contributions to the pages of the style book, now being written by George H. Siegel—a shore 'nuf Rebel from just south—of New Jersey—are the ideas about addressing superiors. Commanding officers will always be known as the 'Ole Marster. The Top Kick will never represent being called an overseer. And what Corporal would give KP for being termed the straw boss.

But again—maybe it isn't such a good idea. So, with the Stars and Bars at our backs, a rebel yell clenched back by our teeth, we go on in the same drab style, as in days past.

First on the list comes First Sergeant John S. Jackson, Hq. Btry. 1st Bn., 114th Field Artillery. Truth of the matter, the non-com has quite an uncontrollable yen for the limb of frog—which costs \$2.50 at the Peabody. But not for our ingenious hero. He must hie off to the general store.

A sad shopkeeper explained that frog gigs were not among his list of saleables, but that the daughter of the house would be glad to act as guide on a hunt for the jumpers. The Sergeant was overjoyed. He could see himself killing two birds with the well known single rock.

Excusing himself for a bit of cleaning and primping, the non-com drifted back to the place of meeting. The storekeeper and his wife were waiting—at least that's what the Sergeant thought. When introductions had reared their ugly heads, the Dixie soldier realized that the tittering female before him was his prospective companion.

In the words of Private Jack White, who released the sad story; "She looked every inch of her forty-plus; her three lonely teeth and sagging features lending proof to the statement." She then proceeded to further frighten the soldier by smiling. "I'm the best frog gigger in these parts," she volunteered.

With a few gentle gulps, a frantic wiping of a perspiring brow and a muttered "gotta go," the young man departed. When White finally penetrated the wilderness to the cave where the Sergeant had gone to become a hermit, the only quote obtained was overheard as he tossed in his sleep, muttering: "Frog hunting is a man's job."

And Sergeant Birdsong, Ser. Btry., 1st Bn., 114th F. A., has been having a heck of a time explaining the complexion powder and bobby pins received in a box from home.

Private George Siegel, the staunch rebel from south Brooklyn, has seldom been accused of being a threat to Robert Taylor. But George, who wrote our recent Runyonish series about the impressions of a New York Guy, has a very good friend in the Military Police Company. And that worthy always had a cheery greeting for the newspaperman.

Seeing someone striding down the road with the same choppy gait of his Press Section acquaintance, the M. P. dashed up and pounded him on the neck. "Say you," he exclaimed, "where'd you get the bars?" Captain Springer, Aide to General Persons, turned and tried to figure out exactly what had happened. The officer explained later: "It was funny at the time, especially the look on that soldier's face, but it became pretty grim the day I took a good look at Siegel."

And there was the young man who decided to go into town with only one buck in his pocket. He had shaved, showered and changed before sitting down in the small cafe. "Give me the biggest steak in the house," he told the waitress. He was scribbling on a menu when the M. P.'s ordered all to climb aboard trucks and embark for camp. Returning to an army meal, the boy was unable to enjoy it until he happened to take a look at the pilfered list of foods. That order he had put in amounted to exactly one dollar and seventy-five cents. From that point on, the issue food was eaten with relish—it was all paid for.

Dixie Chaplains Attend Meeting

The twenty-one chaplains of the 31st (Dixie) Division, attended a meeting of the Third Army's 150 chaplains at Lake Charles, La., Saturday.

The meeting, called by Lt. Gen. Walter Krueger, Third Army commander, discussed morale and spiritual problems of the Third Army, and featured addresses by Gen. Krueger, the Third Army morale officer, and others.

Five Water Tanks For Dixie Medicos

Another step in the modernization and motorization of the 106th Medical Regiment was taken during the past week when five new water-tank trailers arrived. These water carriers, which can be hooked on behind the trucks, hold 250 gallons each. There are six faucets, three on each side, of the tanks, and a suction pump to draw the water into the oval-shaped tanks.

# "Battle of Rapides" Story of Quick Move Orders

The 31st Infantry Division, put to another severe test by fire in last week's "Battle of Rapides," acquitted itself in a highly commendable manner, according to Major General John C. Persons, commander.

When hostilities began, at 7 p. m. Thursday, the Dixie Division was ordered to remain in bivouac in the Kingsville-Pineville area as reserve forces for the IV Army Corps, which was being attacked by the V Army Corps and VIII Army Corps.

The Third Battalion, 156th Infantry, was attached to the 6th Cavalry; a battalion of the 116th Field Artillery and Companies E and H and the Anti-Tank Co., 156th Infantry, were directed to report to IV Army Corps to form the Corps Anti-Tank Battalion. Another company of the 156th, Company F, was ordered to report to Corps to guard prisoners of war.

At midnight, Corps directed one Brigade Combat Team to be moved by shuttling to the McNutt-Gardner area. Two battalions of the 124th Infantry and one battalion of the 117th Field Artillery, a platoon of the 106th Engineers and a detachment of the 106th Medical Regiment, were dispatched in available transportation and reached the battle area about day-break Friday, when it was discovered that the enemy was advancing in force south of Alexandria. The troops re-entrained to meet that threat, and the trucks were then returned to the Pineville bivouac. One battalion of the 124th Infantry and the 167th Infantry were loaded and dispatched to the east of Red River and west of Alexandria.

In the meantime, the first units had become hotly engaged south of Alexandria and were badly in need of reinforcements. Two heavy weapons companies were sent into the battle, and one battalion of the 167th Infantry was dispatched when trucks became available. During Friday night the 167th Infantry fought a delaying action, passing through Dixie forces of Alexandria and attaching themselves to that force.

The balance of the Dixie Division crossed the Red River

by shuttling and formed a line, Red River to a point on Highway 21 north of Gardner. The division was attacked in force by the 37th and 34th Divisions on the south and in Alexandria by the 32nd and 34th Divisions. Dixie units fought a successful delaying action through Alexandria and were ordered out of the city because of the street fighting.

Dixie units then formed a defensive line north of Rapides, holding with only four battalions against the 32nd and 34th Divisions.

The final phase of action, which began after a truce ending at 7 p. m. Sunday, saw the Dixie division retreating to a prepared defensive line, Red River to McNutt, with the 1st Bn., 167th Infantry having been taken by IV Army Corps as Corps reserves to stop an attack north of Boyce at Hot Wells. The 31st Anti-Tank Battalion also was designated by Corps on the last day as Corps reserves.

The 106th Engineers regiment was alerted and formed the Division reserves, together with the 1st Bn., 124th Infantry, after it had a night's rest.

The 155th and 156th Infantry regiments held the western end of the Dixie Division line, retreating slowly to the main line of resistance. Artillery of the 114th, 116th and 117th F. A. regiments were in constant support of the division, firing over 30,000 rounds of observed fire.

The 106th Quartermaster regiment as usual was called upon to function on a 24-hour-a-day basis, performing supply duties along with a gruelling job of troop transportation along the battle front. The 106th Medical Regiment was in full support of the fighting forces at all times, the breadth of the front line taxing the medical units to the utmost in the final phase.

The battle ended with the Dixie Division in full possession of its Main Line of Resistance, which was not penetrated at any point, although engaged in combat with three attacking divisions.

## Chaplains Hold Religious Talks Between Games

Though they were deep in the maneuver area, the three Chaplains of the 155th Infantry held informal religious talks for the personnel of their Regiments. Each Chaplain gave a talk for each Battalion and the special units. During maneuvers the Chaplains are providing religious services for all units of the Magnolia State.

For religious services Chaplain James L. Sandlin cares for the Third Battalion, Chaplain Joseph Keiper for the Second Battalion, and Chaplain Roger P. Melton for the First Battalion. Captain Sandlin, senior chaplain for the Regiment, states that, though religious services have been irregular, they have been available to the soldiers, interviews have been held frequently, and as far as possible they have visited men in the hospital.

Chaplain Sandlin says that from his personal observation of the men in the field he believes that "The morale of the Regiment on maneuvers has been very good and at no time during the big battle did the men complain of the hardships and sacrifices they had to make, and we have every reason to be proud of the 155th Infantry."

## Farmer Still Not Convinced

Captain John Jenkins, well-known physician of Birmingham, Ala., now serving with the 167th Infantry, found his fine surgical technique of little use to him during a "battle" this week. Approached by an irate farmer, who led the officer to a dead cow, claiming that it had been killed by soldiers, Captain Jenkins attempted to convince the farmer that he was mistaken. He performed an autopsy and proved his point. That is he proved his point to everyone except the farmer. He's still unconvinced.

## Parson Williams' Congregation Large

Day by day Parson Williams, Company A, 106th Quartermaster Regiment, finds that his congregation is growing to such proportions that the Louisiana woods are no longer big enough for his outdoor evening "prayer" meetings. His original text, "Jonah and the Whale," has been added to his list of sermons.

Fame came to Parson Williams when he began his preachings with his inimitably told story of "Norah's Ark." With a background of spiritual, "blackened" singers, the parson kept his audience in a high pitch of attention.

Since Parson Williams, a Selective Service private in military life, does not expect to be released from the service until at least January, 1945, he has signed a provisional contract with the NBC sponsored "Carter's Little Shiver Pills" hour for five years. After 1950, he plans to return to his non-lucrative profession of idling away many happy hours of evening for the mirth and enjoyment of his fellow soldiers.

## Col. Safay Returns To Lead His Men in Big War Game

Col. Fred Safay, commanding officer of the 124th Florida Infantry Regiment and Executive officer George A. De Cottes resumed their duties this week after completing a three months course at the Advance School for Regimental Commanders at Ft. Benning, Ga.

The officers joined the regiment on the final day of the problem. Col. Safay commended the troops on the way they had successfully completed their military assignment during the Louisiana Maneuvers.

## Musicians Exchange Instruments for Guns

Seven members of the 156th Infantry Band exchanged their musical instruments for rifles during war games last week so they could see action with their gun "totin'" buddies on the front lines.

Eager to be in the thick of the battle, Pfc Frank Vicari, drummer, Pfc. William Leitz, Pvt. John Stoll, saxophonists, Sgt. George Uillebert, trombonist, and Pfc's George Vicknair and Ernest Tassin, clarinetists, turned in their instruments to draw M-1 rifles from the supply sergeant.

## Capt. Hardenbergh Leaves to Study At Command School

Captain Hal Hardenbergh, aide de camp to Major General John C. Persons, left Thursday for the Command and General Staff School, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where he will take special courses for two months. Until his return Lt. Benjamin W. Wax of the 156th Infantry will replace him.

Inducted as a first lieutenant

## His Many Duties Keep Him Busy



Col. J. H. Spengler, 31st Division Quartermaster, and commanding officer of the 106th Quartermaster Regiment, is the busiest man on Louisiana Maneuvers. A veteran of 41 years in the army, he must see to it that Dixie soldiers have adequate clothing, food, and transportation at all times.

with Company B of the 167th Infantry in November, Captain Hardenbergh was made commanding officer of Company D, and received his captain's bars soon afterward. He was assigned to the General's staff in April.

Captain Hardenbergh also served as business manager of the DIXIE along with Captain Clarence W. Springer, who continues in that capacity and as aide to General Persons.

## Company D Guns Now "Chatter"

In the past the machine guns of Company D, 156th Infantry Regiment have fired only single shots. Men were perplexed as to why their pieces would not "chatter" with a barrage of bullets.

An inquisitive soldier made a thorough examination of the weapons and found in each case that a piece of wood was sending the gas from the bullets through the mouth of the guns. When the plugs were removed the gas operated the recoil mechanism and permitted the guns to work in the customary manner.

## Col. Kuttner Back From Three Months Course at Benning

Col. James H. Kuttner, of Lake Charles, has reassumed command of Louisiana's 156th Infantry regiment after spending three months in the Infantry Commanders' school at Ft. Benning, Ga.

Lt. Col. John Bridger Thorn-

## Canteen Crew Cooks Meals on the Move

Corp. Wade L. McKinnon and his men who keep the 167th Infantry rolling canteen rolling had difficulty finding time to eat while they were traveling between scattered bodies of troops or busy serving the thirsty soldiers.

As the canteen moves on its stomach as well as its wheels, the men ingeniously devised a charcoal stove upon which they prepare their meals while rolling along.

"All five of the fellows, Private Henry Adams, Jess Sword, Clarence Hammons, Roscoe Hare, and Donald Shaw, are equally good cooks," the corporal said.

## Prisoner Captures Two Guards by Trick

Dixie soldiers according to many reports are becoming masters at the art of escaping from enemy concentration areas.

Sgt. Donald Y. Morgan was detailed to get water for 114th Headquarters Battery. The non-commissioned officer took the wrong road and in a short time found himself in the midst of Blue enemy soldiers.

Two soldiers were ordered to guard the captured artilleryman. Sgt. Morgan, pleaded with his captors to permit him to get his water under their custody. The three started after the water and before the Blue soldiers knew it they were in the 114th area where they were taken prisoner.

## Furloughs Given Umpire Group

Enlisted men who recently washed the Louisiana mud from their shoes and departed from these parts with ten day furloughs were Pvt. Neal Lord, Company A, Pvt. Thomas Mann also of Company A, Pvt. Jack P. Anderson, Medical Detachment, Pvs. Paul M. Willens, James Eaton, Ernest L. Ferreira Headquarters Co., Technical Sergeant Joseph C. Govecek, Service Co., Pvt. William F. Reinhardt, Co. E, Pvt. Joseph Averill, Headquarters Detachment 2nd Battalion, Pvt. Raymond Hobbs, Headquarters Detachment 1st Battalion, Pvt. Forrest H. Lee, Company D.

These men recently returned to their various organizations from the IV Corps Umpire Group where they have been on special duty since the group was organized at Camp Blanding early in July.

## Four Officers Out of Maneuvers

Four captains from the 114th Field Artillery Regiment are now absent from the maneuver scene because of illness and accident injuries. Captain Fred W. Koops Jr., adjutant of the regiment, is at Camp Blanding, recovering from injuries received in an accident on the trip from Florida; Captains Fred O'Bannon, Paul R. Tatum and Dewey R. Reagan are ill in Washington and New Orleans hospitals.

## CHICKEN SOUP FOR SOLDIERS BEFORE DAWN BATTLES

"Feed them well before the battle!" Some great General once made this statement and to this day this maxim is carried out in the Army. Plans are now complete for the 31st "Dixie" Division to be fed, of all things, a healthy portion of rich, chicken soup before a "Dawn Attack" which is scheduled to take place during the big War this week.

Capt. Julian Pfaff, supply officer for the Division, announced that immediately prior to the first early morning attack,

troops of the entire Dixie unit will be given individual cans of chicken soup, to be heated by each man and eaten before the fray.

Vats of boiling water will be provided by the mess sergeants into which the cans can be placed. This will be the first time that men of this Division have been issued any type of an in "between meals" food.

Reversing the form followed in civilian life of stopping in the nearest lunch or barbecue stand for a snack after a "big" evening, the men will be fed before their "biggest" day.

## Q. M. Regiment Men Philosophic About Release From Army

Members of the 106th Quartermaster Regiment are already making plans for their release from the service according to the War Department regulations recently issued. Those in the "release" class as well as those left behind have been so elevated in spirit that a marked difference has been noted in their manner and actions.

Those leaving are elated because they will be returned to their homes, families, and old positions. Those that are staying behind are anticipating with great pleasure promotions to higher ranks, vacated by the departing corporals, sergeants, and private specialists.

One of the Regiment's oldest sergeants stated today that the openings will act as a great incentive to the many privates of the selective service group who have never been promoted in rank due to a lack of ratings under the table of organization.

## \$30,000 Payroll in Q. M. Regiment

Nearly \$30,000 in cash was turned loose last pay day to the men of the 106th Quartermaster Regiment, 31st Division, stated 2nd Lt. Frank C. Buehler, personnel Adjutant. The men were paid for the second time in the field and for the first time on Sunday.

Many of the Regiment's personnel sent money to their homes and banks, utilizing the Postal money order system, while large numbers poured a part of their earnings into the government post exchange, and into nearby cities for movies, meals, haircuts, and other diversions.

## Mississippi Men Send \$2000 Home

The soldiers of Laurel, Miss., in the 106th Medical Regiment are good soldiers in more ways than one. They are proving to be good providers. They believed they established a record for the month of August when they sent home about \$2,000 in money orders. The previous high was around \$1,500 made by another regiment.

## No Joke No Matter How You View It

It happened at a non-com "bull-session" in Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Battalion, 156th Inf. The boys had been discussing many subjects and finally the talk turned to the famous Allied company of the last war had been buried alive by a shell burst.

"Gosh," spoke up Corp. Weston Mix, company clerk, of the organization, "it must be awful to be buried alive."

"Well," cracked 1st Sgt. John C. Dusing, "It's no joke being buried dead either."

## Sweet Tooth Causes Soldier's Capture

A new way of gaining contact with the enemy has been discovered by PFC Charles Pete of Headquarters Company, 156th Infantry Regiment.

Out on a reconnaissance patrol to scout enemy forces, Pete saw a patch of sweet sugar cane. Unable to control his appetite for the sweet stalk, the soldier walked into the field. He had no sooner reached for the cane when he was surrounded by Blue soldiers. It seems they too liked the sugar cane and were using it to hide in and wait for unwary Red soldiers.

## 167th Selectee Sent To Officers School

When Private Benjamin F. Holcomb of Birmingham's Headquarters Detachment, 3rd battalion, 167th Infantry, enters the officer-candidate school at Ft. Benning, Ga., Sept. 13, he will be the first selectee in the entire Dixie Division to win appointment to the Infantry school. Pvt. Holcomb, who was employed by the T. C. I. & R. R. Co., as an accounting engineer upon induction, can probably claim the distinction of being the first conscripted in the entire U. S. Army to Army to attend the school. He will be commissioned a second lieutenant in the Infantry Reserves upon completion of the three-month course.

## CLASSIFIED

### FOUND

G. I. prismatic compass. Press Section, 116th F. A. Hq.

### LOST

White gold Elgin pocket watch. 1st Lt. Charles G. Renfro, Hq. Btry., 2nd Bn., 116th F. A. Reward.

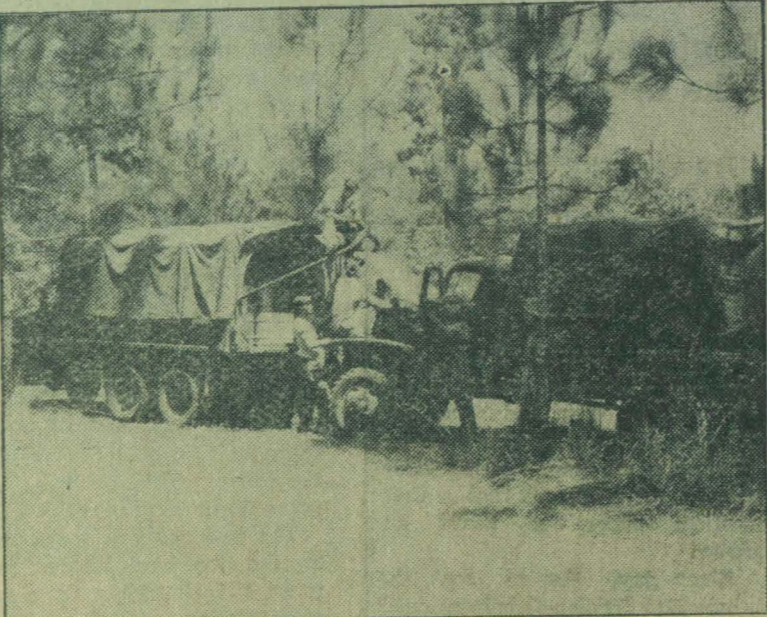
Bulova wrist watch, 2-tone gold, near Camp Beauregard. Sgt. Joe Putnam, Btry. D, 116th F. A. Reward.

Brown billfold between Company C, 106th Q. M. Regiment and canteen. Contains \$73.00 in cash and papers. Pvt. Duce, Co. C., 106th Q. M. Regt. REWARD.

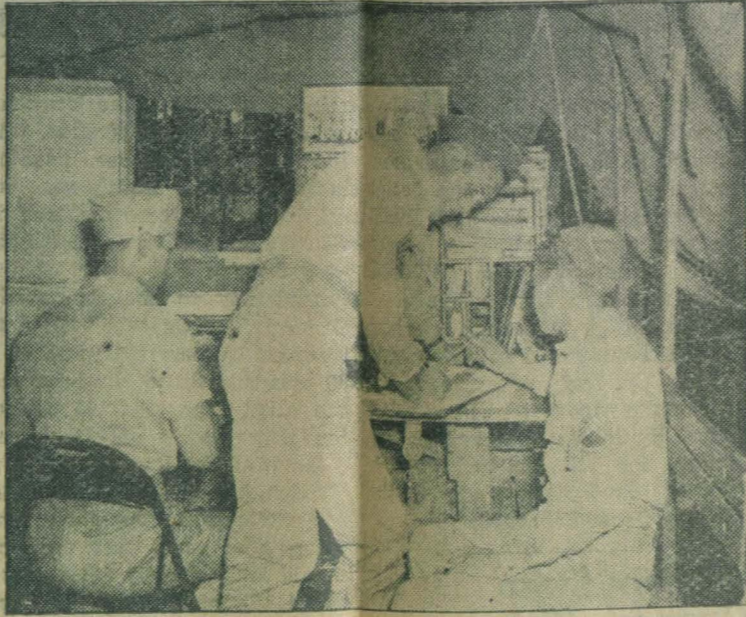
One field bag, 3 miles south of Oakdale, containing shaving kit, canteen cup, mess kit, and one pair of leggings. If found please return to Sgt. W. A. Sadler, Hq. Btry., 56th field artillery brigade. REWARD.

Black leather wallet marked "Corp. George Rollin, Hdq. Co., 156th Inf." Lost between Division Theatre Camp Blanding and Company A, 156th Inf. Reward if returned to above with papers intact.

ONE 17-JEWEL Harval wrist-watch last Monday Morning in 156th Infantry bivouac area. Three dollar reward if returned to Pfc. Beamon Ross, Headquarters Co., 156th Inf.



Pictured above are members of Company B, 106th Quartermaster Regiment, in action during maneuvers. This Alexandria unit is a typical transportation section. As part of the 1st Battalion, and commanded by Captain Beuford Pittman, the men are responsible for transporting personnel, rations, equipment and supplies to whatever units may require their services. Working long hours, often going without sleep for extensive periods and missing mess as often as they get get them, the quartermaster boys are real war horses of the Division. Driving under all and any weather conditions over roads usually narrow and bumpy



enough to send the ordinary driver into fits, they are also responsible for the condition and minor repairs to their vehicles. In addition, they must keep detailed records as to mileage, gas and oil consumption and other data. And, above all, they must see to it that their mechanical charges are ready to go at any time, breakdowns being costly to the operations of the division. The first shot above shows two crews of the company operating a wrecker truck, itself a "6 by 6" pulling another of the 2 1/2 ton jobs from its difficulties to where the truck can be repaired. Center shows the office and staff of the company functioning in the



field. In the usual order are Staff Sergeant Albert S. Leckie, Corporal Edward Jordon, company clerk, and (standing) 1st Sergeant Mervin C. Brister, Alexandrians all, checking the numerous operation sheets, so necessary to the efficiency of the organization. The third photo reveals the quartermasters using a winch to extricate another truck from a ditch, into which it had slipped. All in a day for the Quartermasters, who carry everything including the mail with very few breakdowns—a tribute to the manner in which the men handle their important jobs.

## 'C' RATIONS

(Continued from page 1)

Since the coffee is of a soluble nature, canteen cups of hot water will be obtainable from the kitchens. There will be no cream for the coffee but sugar is provided. Dessert is in the form of chocolate bars weighing 1 oz. each. Pleasant in taste, the candy is also high in its food value content. Capt. Pfaff stated that one bar in itself contains enough nutrition to keep the soldier satisfied for many hours.

Last year when similar emergency rations were issued, the cans were of the 20 oz. size. It was found that these cans contained too much food for one man and so the size was cut this year to 12 oz. Each biscuit can contains 2½ ounces of this form of bread, ¼ oz. of coffee, ½ oz. of sugar, and the 1 oz. chocolate bar.

An innovation this year, Capt. Pfaff pointed out, is the inclusion of a key with which the cans are opened inside the heavy food cans while the bread and coffee containers have their key on the outside. This means that if the outside key is lost, one of the inside ones can be obtained and utilized by breaking the can open. To break the can of the bread and coffee will not disturb this type of food as easily as the hash, beans, or stew might be.

When the cans are emptied, they can be used for drinking purposes or as individual cooking pans. They are of a type of material that will not poison the food after opened.

The supply train of these emergency rations is on hand and there are nearly 100,000 separate units stored there. Last year, Capt. Pfaff recalled the cans cost the government 15 cents each, or 90 cents per man for each day. The actual cost this year is as yet unknown as the cans have been reduced in size. However, assuming that each can costs 10 cents, the supply train for one day for the entire Division has a cash value of \$10,000. This is considerably higher than the usual so-called "better" food now being received by the units. Men are now fed for 44 cents each per day.

The cans will be issued to the different Regimental supply officers, who will in turn issue them to the company and battery mess sergeants. Whether or not last year's precedent will be followed on consuming these rations on the last day before the departure for Camp Blanding of the 31st Division's troops was not known by Capt. Pfaff.

In the time of actual war, the Division Supply officer will be prepared to supply these "C" rations at any time. This is a phase of the Quartermaster work.

## Cross-eyed Soldier Hits Wrong Man

In the midst of swinging Alabama and Indian fists and the noise of blended Cherokee and Rebel yells, Privates George Gentry and W. C. Shaddix of Tuscaloosa's Company B, 167th Inf., found themselves surrounded by Monday. In the brief conflict with the 108th Inf. Cherokee Pvt. Gentry stood slightly back of his commanding officer, 1st Lt. Wm. R. Roby, as the latter stopped the fighting. Pvt. Shaddix had engaged a cross-eyed Blue soldier but ceased hostilities at Lt. Roby's command. The Blue soldier who had been getting the worst of it, apparently wasn't ready to quit. Mistaking Gentry for his recent opponent, Shaddix, he knocked the innocent bystander sprawling with a blow on the back of the head.

## Six Foot Map Shows Him Way

Major Edward A. Dinkelspiel of New Orleans, plant and training officer of Louisiana's 156th Infantry regiment, doesn't worry about getting lost on maneuvers.

Whenever he isn't exactly sure of his position, whether he be in his own territory or behind the enemy lines, all the officer has to do is stop his command car take out the map he carries with him, and locate himself.

This map, which is six feet long and four feet wide, shows every highway, woods road and bypath in the entire area. It is so large that it must be carried strapped to the top of Major Dinkelspiel's car.

## Solder Makes Bridge of Logs

The Army wouldn't need engineers to build bridges if all its drivers modeled themselves on Pvt. Thomas Bondi, of New Orleans' Co. D, 156th Infantry.

Out reconnoitering on a woods road with his officer, 1st Lt. Julius Sadilek, Pvt. Bondi found his way was blocked by a twelve-foot ditch. No bridge was visible. Seizing his axe, Bondi cut two trees so they fell over the gap. That was all the soldier needed. A few seconds later, the car was on the other side, after having been driven across the two logs.

P. S. Lt. Sadilek joined the vehicle on the opposite side of the ditch.

## CANTEENS

(continued from page 1)

total business has averaged \$75,000 monthly since the 31st Division fighters have been in Louisiana. Col. Willis is assisted by Major Stanhope C. Smith and Gunter Watson, a civilian employee, and a full staff of enlisted personnel. These men often work from six in the morning to eleven at night and are on the move as much as the troops are. When the order comes down to push out, they load their truck with soft drinks, candy, cigarettes, tobacco and—at night—with beer and other merchandise and follow the men. Often the Division may be spread over a 20-mile area, but the canteen trucks manage to visit every detachment during the day.

The rush around a canteen is at times overwhelming. Infantrymen who have been walking through dust and mud, up and down hills and through narrow forest trails, get a tremendous lift from a cigarette or a drink, and these refreshers at the right moment have given them the pep to continue on. The division exchange also has aided the men in the lower pay brackets with its reasonable prices, as it has received special exemption from the State of Louisiana sales taxes. The exchange is a non-profit organization, and all funds over net costs are eventually returned to the men through their company funds and used for getting extras for the messes, kitchen utensils, and other necessities.

The Dixie canteens will stay with the troops throughout the maneuvers and through the big Army War Games, and the boys from the South know that in the heat of battle there will be refreshers there for them.

## The Pig Slowly Walked Away!

"And the pig got up and slowly walked away," Corp. Henry Vance, Battery A, 114th FA., experienced this phrase of the comic song when he crawled into his tent recently.

The non-commissioned officer had no more than entered his sleeping quarters when he made a hasty retreat. A hog, disturbed from its siesta, walked slowly from the tent. After taking one annoyed look at Corp. Vance, the porker lumbered off to another cool spot.

## Sense of Duty Confuses Man

Pvt. James H. Wilson of the 124th Anti-Tank company, is not exactly what you might call a yes man. The other day when his commanding officer, Lt. William E. Ball, ordered him to perform a duty he said, in all seriousness, "Lieutenant you can't send me away from here now, I have work to do." Such a reply was, to say the least, unexpected and a little out of the ordinary. However, Lt. Ball maintained a peaceful attitude and went on to inquire as to the nature of this all important work. "I have to go after the mail," exclaimed the private in a tone that bespoke of heroism, self-sacrifice and pride.

It was obvious that the private was not meaning to be insubordinate but merely anxious to prove his point. Lt. Ball spoke again, no doubt with little sincerity but with finality; "I'll go after the mail while you are gone." "But you can't do that, sir," said the enlisted man. "I am the mail orderly," Lieutenant. "Well, don't you suppose that being the company commander they would give me the mail?" Pvt. Wilson seemed to consider the question then spoke. "No, sir, I don't believe

## My Buddies No Idle Phrase in 156th Reg.

The term my buddy is not an idle phrase in Hq. Co. 156th Infantry Regiment. Recently Corp. Alton McNabb received word that his father had died. The distressed soldier wanted to go home but did not have the necessary funds.

He quickly made the rounds of his unit to solicit the money. None had as much as he needed to make the trip. When McNabb finally despaired of raising the ticket fare, one of his buddies handed him \$13.80 and said, "sorry corporal, but this is the best the boys could do. He had taken up a nickel and dime collection for the non-commissioned officer.

## Their Faces Are Still Red

Sergeant John M. Sarra and Niles Keen of Headquarters Company, 124th Infantry Regiment will long remember the restaurant K. P. detail they wished on themselves when they offered to do the dishes for a pretty young waitress in Alexandria.

The two Florida soldiers purchased sandwiches in the restaurant. Attracted by the pretty young miss who served them, the men sought to make a hit with her by offering to do the big pile of dishes. She did not refuse the offer.

Before they knew what had happened they were presented aprons by the young lady's mother and shown the pile of dirty china. The daughter in the meantime vanished. Quite disturbed but bound by a verbal agreement the men washed the dishes and left with red faces not entirely caused by their hot work.

## Soldier Takes Bath in Vain

Here's one that should make tears of sympathy well up in your eyes. It concerns Pvt. Clyde L. Crowder of Hq. Btry, 114th Field Artillery, and his recent heart-breaking experience.

The unfortunate soldier, after several bathless days in the field, finally got a chance to take a bath.

It was a hard trip—six miles over a bumpy road through the woods but worth every mile of it. Private Crowder returned to camp after dark all spic and span and in high spirits. In fact he felt so good that he decided to run to his tent. He took off and fell into a six foot garbage pit half full of garbage.

## ECHELONS

(Continued from page 1)

74th Prov Trk Co.  
106th QM Regt (Less Hq, Hq Co. & Serv. Co.).  
Hq Special Troops.  
1 Plat, 31st MP Co.

2nd Echelon  
Hq & Hq Co 62nd Inf Brigade.  
124th Infantry.  
106th Ordnance Co.  
1 Plat, 31st MP Co.  
118th Observation Squadron.  
Det 106th Med Regt.

3rd Echelon  
167th Infantry.  
58th Med Bn.  
31st MP Co (Less 2 Plats).  
31st Anti-Tank Bn.

4th Echelon  
Hq & Hq Co 61st Inf Brigade.  
155th Infantry.  
204th MP Co. (Less 2 Plats).  
106th Engineer Regiment.

5th Echelon  
156th Infantry.  
6th Evacuation Hospital.  
1 Plat, 204th MP Co.  
Co A, 82nd QM Bn (LM) (Less 1 Plat).  
94th QM Co. Rhd.  
Rhd Det IV Army Corps.  
Det 106th Med Regt.  
Dets 106th Qm Regt.

6th Echelon  
117th FA Regt.

They will."

Most people do not consider facial expressions as being a part of conversation, nevertheless this conversation ended with a look that told Private Wilson that it would, after all, be best for him to comply with the officer's wishes.

So convincing was the persistent soldier's argument that Lt. Ball did later investigate the possibilities of collecting the mail himself.

## DAM NEARLY FINISHED



The 106th Engineers, whose ever working lads who usually keep things in shape, put the finishing touches on one of the dams used for the storing of water to be used for the showers so well enjoyed by most of the men in the field. This dam work was a sideline they picked up after arrival in Louisiana.

Hq & Hq Btry 56th FA Brigade.  
114th FA Regt.  
116th FA Regt.  
1 Plat, 204th MP Co.  
57th Ord Co.  
Co. C, 28th QM Regt.

## Death Ends 124th Pigeon Couriers

The Dixie Division's first experience with pigeons as a means of communication came to a sad ending recently when 23 winged couriers owned by Pvt. Max Williams of Headquarters Company, 124th Infantry Regiment, died from unknown reasons.

Pvt. Williams maintained a loft while at Camp Blanding. Several of his better pigeons he used with success during the Ocala Maneuver. It was his hope that the birds could be employed during the war games this month. The pigeons were valued from two to twenty-five dollars each. The cause of their deaths is attributed to poison berries.

Williams is not discouraged by his first venture with "war birds." He plans to buy more when he goes back to camp and have them ready for the North Carolina Maneuver in November.

## 124th Officers Keep Men Cool

The 124th Infantry Regiment has a sure fire way to keep its men cool. Whenever its officers seek a new bivouac area they make sure it's near a place to swim or bathe. This was true two weeks ago when the regiment camped near the CCC Gum Spring swimming pool near Winnfield. Last week troops were located near Alexandria City Park which had both a swimming pool and showers.

## Operates Clippers From Batteries

Pvt. James O'Daniel, of Lakeland, in Battery D of the 116th Field Artillery, is a jack of at least four trades. As a barber he enjoys a large clientele throughout the regiment. He is an electrician and has altered his hair clippers so that they operate from batteries, thus going one better another barber in the 31st Division who operates clippers from a radio generator, for O'Daniel needs no one to turn a crank.

O'Daniel is a former employee of the Lakeland Typewriter and Supply Co. and now keeps the regiment's typewriters in working order. He is also a telephone operator, for his assigned duty is that of telephone operator on the Battery D switchboard.

6th Echelon

117th FA Regt.

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## Mississippi Band Plays for General

The 114th Field Artillery Band played a special concert for Maj. General John C. Persons, member of his staff and guests Thursday evening at the Forward Command Post.

The program included two martial tunes and many popular melodies. Gen. Persons enthusiastically applauded the Mississippi Band's rendition of the Hut-Sut song. At the conclusion of the woodland musicale, he commended the unit for its concert and for the way it assisted on the ammunition detail during War Games last week.

## Tree Attacks 116th Lieutenant

If "man bites dog" is news, then by the same axiom "tree hits man" is news, too. During a recent night blackout motor movement through woods, 1st Lt. Geo. H. Crill, of St. Petersburg, executive officer of Battery E, 116th Field Artillery, was walking in front of his car as guide. Approaching at right angle, a heavy truck struck a slender, tall tree near the base. The tree toppled, rapped the Lieutenant on the head, knocked him out cold. He spent three days in the 31st Division field hospital for treatment of a head contusion.

## Soldiers Bunk in Many Places

When the Army "takes over," it leaves no doubt of its ability. The 106th Engineers bivouaced in a barnyard; the Post Office boys alongside a church; others took over empty homes and barns; some sought the shelter of a cattle ramp; while others were found under water towers, railroad station platforms, and cisterns.

## LAST PROBLEMS

(continued from page 1)

mission of finding the location of an enemy armored division, which the red forces had been unable to locate. Captain Matthews, commander of the reconnaissance outfit, was ordered to locate the armored division and report findings immediately to the Commanding General. The Captain took a few weapons carriers and part of his 90 men and found the location of the enemy and reported within a few hours, losing only three men.

Some of the Regiments of the division, the General stated, have held critiques for the enlisted men. He pointed out that each man should know exactly what goes on so he will understand the importance of his particular job and better how to do it.

The gratifying results of these maneuver campaigns, so far, may be attributed to the excellent physical condition of the men and the hard training they have had, think the commanding officers. "I think," said the commanding General "that this is the best division in the United States Army. I want to extend my commendations to each man and officer. I am proud of you."

## Only Southern Boys Helped By Family

A northerner doesn't have a chance of the South when it comes to getting aid from civilians during war problems. Four Red soldiers of the 124th were hid during the maneuver last week by a family who first asked if the men were southerners. When they told the people they were Dixie men they were given breakfast and driven to their command post.

## Medico Mechanics Keep Vehicles In Tip Top Shape

Not all of the work of the 106th Medical Regiment is done with a first aid kit or with the surgeon's knife. For instance, there's the Medicos' motor pool and work shop in charge of men of Headquarters and Service company.

Here it is that the soldiers take up pliers, saws, hammers, grease guns, to go to work on the trucks, automobiles and ambulances. Under the direction of First Lieutenant John B. Lilly, the "medico-mechanists" are mechanics as well as doctors. They "operate" on machines, curing their ills.

Master Sergeant of this busy crew is Fulton Faulk, Samson, Ala. In this batch of husky, hard-working Medicos are what Lieutenant Lilly will tell you are the four huskiest lads you would desire. They are ideally-suited for their tasks. This quartet, which can lift oil cans and trucks with much dexterity, are Privates Lomax Bowden, Roy Morris, Ivie Dismuke, and Talbert M. Sumlin, all of Samson, Ala.

It is absolutely necessary that the ambulances are kept running in tip-top shape, during peace and war, so the work of the motor pool members are vital to the health and safety of the Dixie Division. While the rest of the medical regiment is functioning in a clerical and surgical way, the motor pool workers are seeing to it that this very important section of transportation is not impaired.

## Regiment Fights Like Division

It was a quiet sector along the 43rd Division front when the Alabama troops of the First Battalion, 167th Inf., were thrown into the line to help bolster the sagging defenses of the New England soldiers. It wasn't quiet long, however, because the Tuscaloosa and South Alabama boys opened up with all they had once they were in position. Their chattering machine guns and popping rifles caused such a furore that a Connecticut soldier was heard exclaim:

"Jeez guy, they've sent the whole 31st division to help us out."

## Youngest Dixie Officer Promoted

Two Lakeland Army officers, serving with the 116th Field Artillery in the 31st (Dixie) Division, received promotions this week. Second Lieutenant Julian P. Myrick received his First Lieutenant's bars and is the youngest First Lieutenant in the Division. He was 22 years old last month.

## Soldier Makes Wildwest Show

Bronco-busting in true Wild West style was indulged in by several of the Dixie Division rough-riders last Tuesday not long after the armistice was declared. With many soldiers squatting on a wooden fence in true cowboy style, some of the boys mounted the horses in the corral and, with lassoes swinging round and round, they tore around as they attempted to rope the "wild ponies." The old farmer who permitted the use of his yard and animals gazed on wild-eyed and genial.

## DARING MEN

(Continued from Page 1)

when the rear guards slackened their duties with the prisoner column, the infantrymen turned tail, fled into the woods and discovered protecting cover. Later they emerged from their hiding place and made their way to the Blues' motor road. There, resplendent in its newness, stood parked the car of the general. The latter was nearby, the chauffeur at the wheel.

The privates declined the temptation to bag a general, so they leaped into the car and forced the driver to start the car and move forward. Through the enemy lines, getting salutes from guards and other soldiers, the Dixie Division men sped until they reached their own lines. There their prize was turned over to battalion executives.

Then the men and high officers brought their findings to the Division Command Post, reporting them to Captain Clarence M. Springer, aide to General Persons. He speedily called in his chief, and with the aid of the pilfered plans, the Division was better able to reform its lines and hold the overpowering Blues at bay.

## Division Company Feeds 342 Men

What may well be a record of the Division was set last week by Mess Sergeant Peter Gulaj and his kitchen crew of Headquarters Company, Special Troops, when rations were drawn for 342 men.

Although ordinarily Sgt. Gulaj and his helpers prepare mess for less than 100 men, they never know when this requirement may be doubled or tripled. Units such as the Reconnaissance or Anti-Tank organizations may bivouac in the Special Troops sector; or Military Police or Signal Corps men may be too far from their own kitchens, and call on the Headquarters mess for their meals.

## Mess Sergeants Take Notice!

Mothers who have been constantly searching for a tasty, yet healthful drink for their children, would do well to follow the example of Mess Sergeant Lawrence W. Lee of Company E 124th Inf.

Fresh milk is not available through army supply, however canned milk is issued in abundance, so the khaki clad chef dilutes the condensed milk with water, adds sugar and vanilla flavoring. Ten gallons of this iced in a large galvanized can furnishes his company with a cool, tasty, nourishing drink.

All of the men agree that this unshaken milk-shake is delicious, and by far the best drink yet offered by the company kitchen.

## Almost Swim In "Graveyard"

Two privates first class, Leon D'Angelo and Archie Mays, M Co., 155th Inf., lost all desire to go swimming last week when they discovered their bathing place to be a graveyard.

The two soldiers were walking the river bank looking for a place to swim when they came upon a maze of jaw bones, skulls and knee bones. Further investigation revealed a complete skeleton protruding from the river bank. It seems the river over a period of years had cut into what was once a cemetery.

Second Lieutenant James A. Griffin was promoted to a first lieutenant. Lt. Myrick is regimental personnel officer and Lt. Griffin is the second battalion motor officer.

## Anti-Tank Employs Bikes In Farm Fracas

Much can be said about the men of the 2nd Battalion and Anti-Tank, 124th Inf., who took part in the famed battle of the stockyard.

These hard fighting Floridians, who for more than six hours blocked the advance of an entire Division, are certainly deserving of the praise they received from umpires and officers and men of both forces.

With speed and accuracy they constantly changed the position of troops and guns in an effort to match the fire of the enemy, never ceasing their relentless struggle until ruled out of action by the umpires.

Judging from the accounts of this fracas, one likely reason why this small force did not hurl back the superior force was that one platoon, on out-post duty, was unable to rejoin the main body after hostilities got underway.

During the height of the battle Sergeant C. M. Wilson of Company G, 124th Inf., received a message that a machine gun, some distance down the road, was in dire need of rifle support. Realizing the need for speed the Sergeant borrowed 5 bicycles from youngsters who were nearby watching the war. The deal was completed on the condition that the owners be allowed to go along. So the juvenile observers hanging on, the five riflemen pedaled madly down the road to rescue the besieged gun.

## Gets in Hole, Digs Self Out